**For Immediate Release**

**Greater St. Louis Area Council, BSA**

***<insert date>***

**Contact:** *<insert name>*

**e:** *<insert email>*

**Scouts Asking For Canned Good Donations For Scouting For Food**

***<insert town; example: ST. LOUIS, Mo.>* –** Over one million Scouting For Food bags were delivered last weekend. Now the Boy Scouts and MERS Missouri Goodwill, 2017 Scouting For Food sponsor, are asking residents to leave the bags filled with canned goods on their doorsteps on Saturday, Nov. 18 by 9 a.m. for pickup.

Scouting For Food is the Boy Scouts’ annual service project. Each year, the food drive collects about 2 million food items which help provide more than 550,000 meals for those in need. It is the largest one-day food drive in the Boy Scouts of America. Last year, Scouting For Food collected a record 2,249,000 items of food.

When it comes to donations, canned fruits, vegetables, soups, tuna, chicken, and pasta sauce, and meals in a box such as hamburger helper are most needed.

Food donations in *<insert your town name>* are picked up by Scouts and taken to *<insert your pantry/food bank location>* where it is sorted and put on shelves ready to feed the hungry.

Residents whose bags are missed Saturday can call 314-361-0600. Residents who did not receive a bag can take canned food donations to any Goodwill store location Nov. 19-25.

**About the Greater St. Louis Area Council**A United Way agency, the Greater St. Louis Area Council provides youth with character development programs and values-based leadership training. The council, one of the largest in the Boy Scouts of America, has more than 66,000 members and nearly 15,000 adult volunteers. They come from 51 different counties in the Southeast Missouri, Southern Illinois and St. Louis Metropolitan areas. For more information, visit stlbsa.org.

**About MERS Missouri Goodwill Industries**

MERS Goodwill changes lives through the power of work. Its vision is a community where each individual has the opportunity to learn, work, and achieve their greatest potential. Annually serving more than 60,000 individuals, the non-profit agency operates in 75 locations serving 89 counties in the bi-state area. Revenues from 44 Goodwill stores assist with funding MERS Goodwill job training and employment services. MERS Goodwill is a proud member of the United Way. For more information about MERS Goodwill or to find a Goodwill donation center near you, call (314) 241-3464 or visit [www.mersgoodwill.org](http://www.mersgoodwill.org/).

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